(c) The question does not arise.

Revenue Secretary's visit to the United States for dicussion with I.M.F. Experts

*114. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Revenue Secretary was sent to the United States to exchange views with IMF experts on different aspects of tax policy and for chalking out measures to combat black money; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the discussions held and what measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The Revenue Secretary visited Washington from 4th to 6th June, 1990 for discussions with the taxation experts of IMF on different aspects of tax policy and adminitration both in respect of Direct and Indirect Taxes.

(b) There was an exchange of views on the experience of various countries with regard to different aspects of tax reform and their relevance and suitability to the Indian situation. The information gathered during the discussions would be an useful input in the formulation of tax policies in future.

*115. (Transferred to 27th August, 1990]

Issuing of identity cards to voters

*116. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to issue identity cards to the voters during general elections; and

(b) whether mobile booths are also proposed to be introduced to help voters to cast their votes?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Necessary decision in this regard will be taken by the Election Commission at the appropirate time.

Welfare scheme for lawyers

*117. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the welfare of lawyers after their retirement; and

(b) if so, by when this scheme is likely to be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Scheme of Labour Rationalisation evolved by NTC

*118. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of employees working in the mills under the National Textile Corporation and also in the mills managed by NTC;

(b) whether NTC has evolved a scheme of labour rationalisation resulting in retrenchment of a large number of employees;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to provide alternative employment to the retrenched employees?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) At present, National Textile Corporation is managing 109 Nationalised and 15 managed units. As on 31-3-1990, these mills employed 1,54,878 and 24,156 persons respectively.

(b) NTC has a Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme for labour rationalisation which envisages voluntary retirement of workers. The retirement scheme does not involve retrenchment.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Introduction of value added tax scheme in the country

*119. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Value Added Tax (VAT) Scheme in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, whether Government would consider the question to obviate the cascading effect of indirect taxes on the value of the final product and to encourage the auxiliary indurtries?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have introduced a modified Value Added Tax called MODVAT which now extends to all commodities upto the manufacturing stage with the exception of only textiles, tobacco, petroleum products, aerated water and matches. In addition to MODVAT there are provisions for selective set off and proforma credit for duty paid on certain inputs going into the finished product.

Setting up energy food plant in the country

*120. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public sector Modern Food Industries Ltd. propose to set up more energy food plants in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the names of the towns and cities in which these energy food plants would be set up and by when?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Presently Modern Food Industries Ltd. is setting up energy food plants (Poshahar plants) at Udaipur (Rajasthan), Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) and Badaun (Uttar Pradesh). While the Udaipur and Ujjain plants are expected to be commissioned during 1990-91, the Badaun plant is expected to be commissioned during 1991-92.

Export of Tobacco

929. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of tobacco exported during the last three years together with the names of the countries to which export has been made;

(b) the quantum of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof, year-wise;

(c) the target of exports fixed for the current year and for the next three years;

(d) the impact of the recent cyclone in Andhra Pradesh on the exports of tobacco; and

(e) the action taken by Government to achieve the target?